2013 Lake Verret/Grassy Lake/Lake Palourde Vegetation Control Plan

LDWF, Inland Fisheries

1. Waterbody type – large, intermediate-depth natural lakes
2. Age and condition of control structure – No control structures
3. Water level range (MSL) – Gauge Height – approx 2.5 ft.
   See USGS 073814675 Bayou Boeuf at Railroad Bridge at Amelia, LA
   http://waterdata.usgs.gov/la/nwis/uv?cb_00065=on&format=gif_default&begin_date=2012-03-07&end_date=2012-03-14&site_no=073814675
4. Surface area:
   a. Verret – 14,400 acres
   b. Grassy – 1,200 acres
   c. Palourde – 10,700 acres
5. Average depth – 5 ft
6. Waterbody Board or Lake Commission – Fish and wildlife resources are managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF).
   Primary contact information – Rachel Walley, District 7 Inland Fisheries Biologist Manager – (225) 765 – 2336.

What significant stakeholders use the lake?
Commercial and recreational fishermen along with some recreational boaters, the oil and gas industry, and camp owners.

What are their needs and concerns? What is the history of aquatic vegetation complaints?
Verret, Grassy, and Palourde do not get a significant amount of vegetation complaints. Historically, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has sprayed this area. The only areas that possibly need attention are back canals that occasionally get a fringe of water hyacinth as well as some submerged vegetation. Each year the actual lakes get trace amounts of submerged, emergent, and floating vegetation.

Have there been any controversial issues?
In the past, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been responsible for spraying this area. However, they only sprayed aquatic vegetation that was impeding navigation. Effective October 1, 2011, USACE stopped receiving funding for aquatic plant control activities. It is now the responsibility of LDWF.

Aquatic Vegetation Status:

Predictions for 2013:

Lake Verret –
Problematic Species:
Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) – 150 acres
Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) – 50 acres
Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) – 20 acres

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) – 100 acres
Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) – 100 acres

Beneficial Species:
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) – 150 acres
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) – 50 acres
American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) – 40 acres

Grassy Lake-

Problematic Species:
Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) – 50 acres
Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) – 20 acres
Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) – 75 acres
Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) – 20 acres

Beneficial Species:
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) – 75 acres
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) – 25 acres
American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) – 30 acres

Lake Palourde

Problematic Species:
Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) – 20 acres
Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) – 10 acres
Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) – 40 acres
Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) – 10 acres

Beneficial Species:
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) – 30 acres
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) – 20 acres

Limitations:

N/A

Past Control Measures:

USACE has historically sprayed this area when navigation problems became evident.

Two isolated camp canals off of Bayou Corne were treated for dense submerged and emergent vegetation in July of 2011. Bayou Corne is located north of Lake Verret. It flows into Grand Bayou. Grand Bayou flows into Lake Verret. The application was in response to the first public complaint in the area and was likely an isolated situation where the plants did not reach an unmanageable level until recently.

20 ounces of liquid Sonar AS were used to treat an area of 3 acres.
10 ounces of liquid Sonar AS were applied a month later to the same area.
Species present:
Mexican Waterlily (*Nymphaea mexicana*)
Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)
Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*)
Filamentous algae

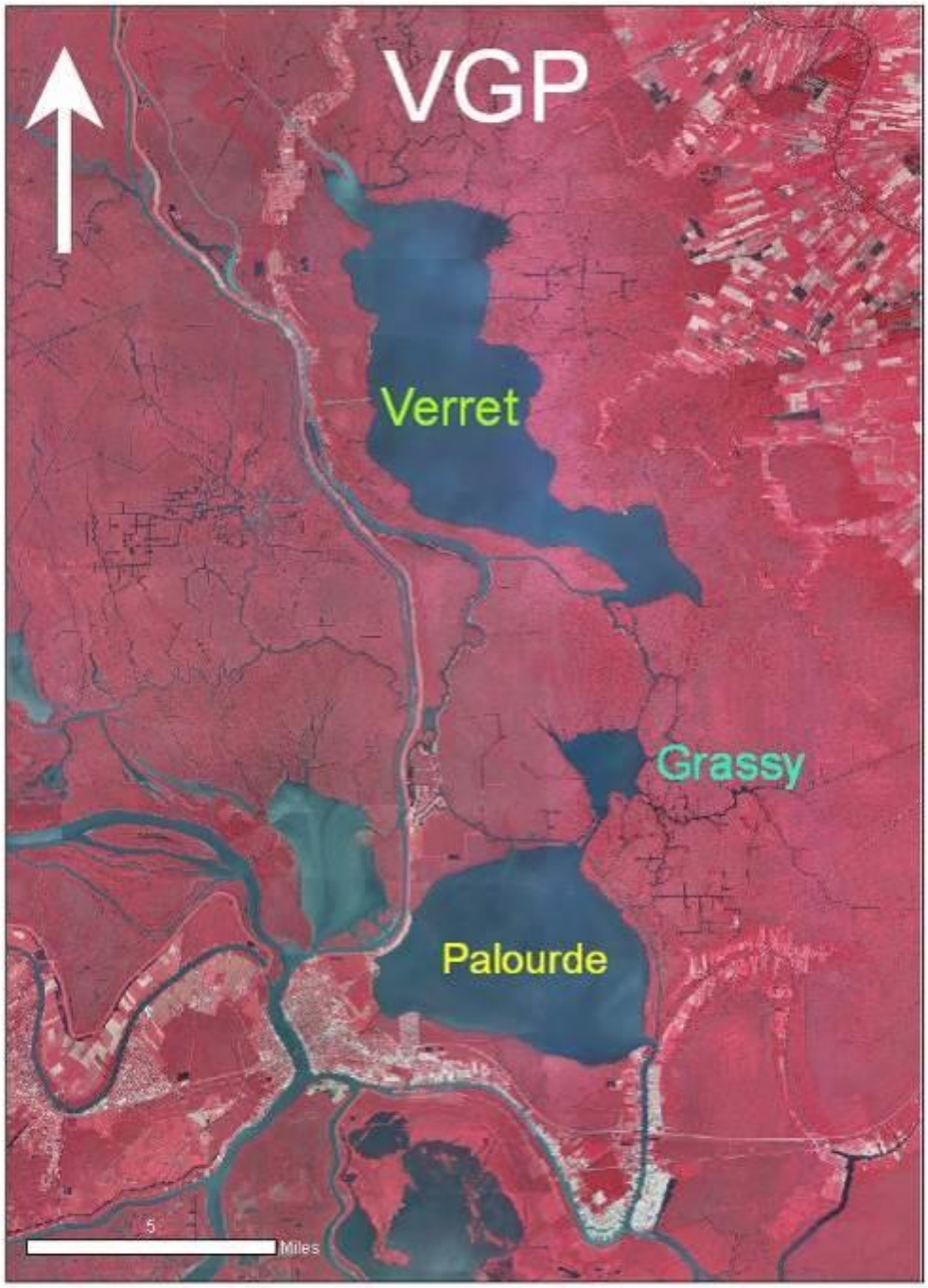
Results were excellent: 90% kill of all vegetation present.

In 2012, 73 acres of vegetation were chemically treated. Of the total acreage, 53 acres consisted of water hyacinth, 8 acres of water lettuce, 8 acres of sedge, and 4 acres of common salvinia.

Recommendations:

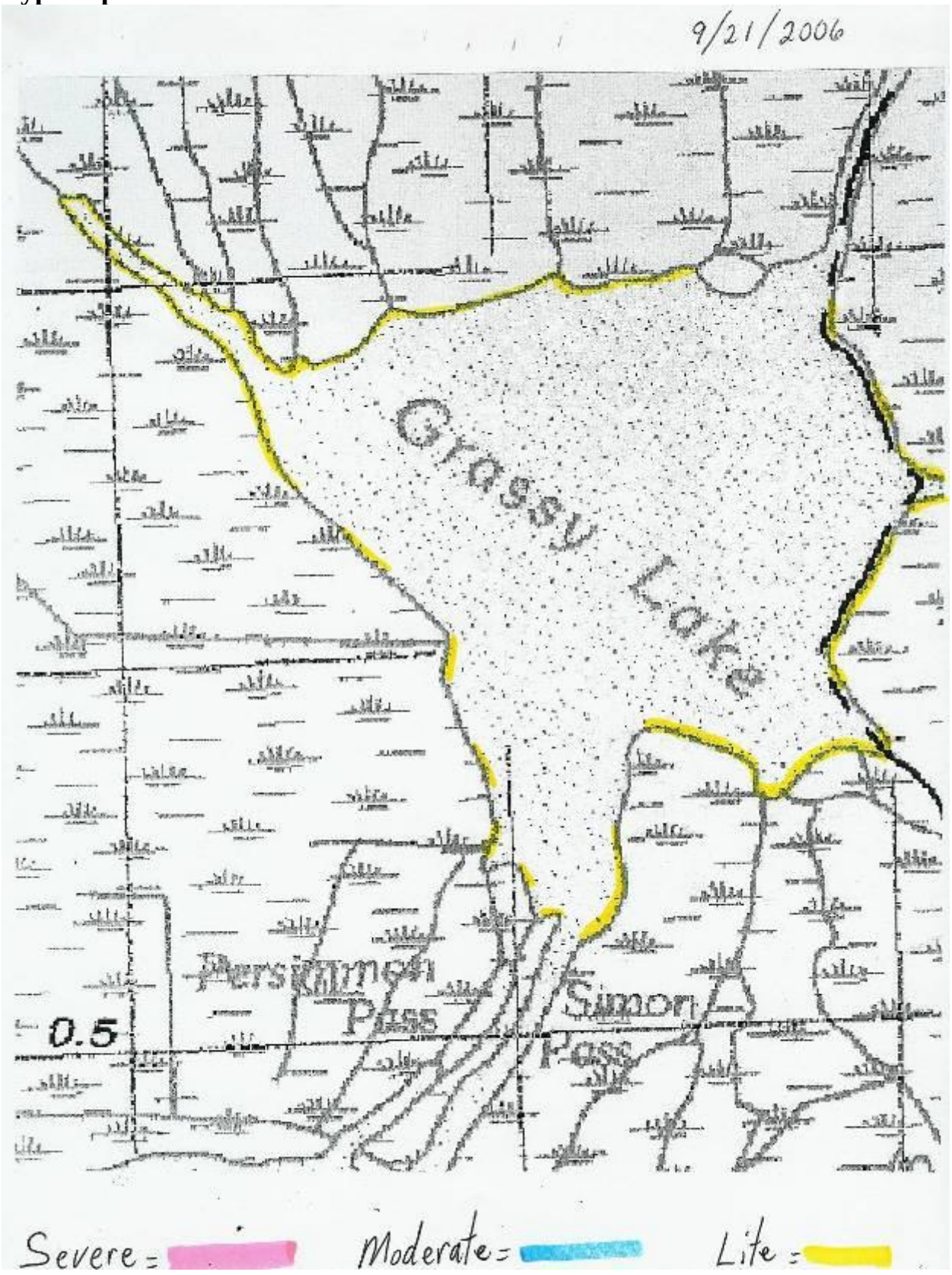
1. These lakes and the surrounding areas will be assessed monthly during the growing season.
2. Public complaints will receive a timely response.
3. Problem areas will be treated as they arise with foliar applications of the appropriate herbicide:
    a. Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) should be treated with 2,4-D at a rate of 0.5 gallons per acre.
    b. Common salvinia should be treated with glyphosate (0.75 gallons per acre) + diquat (0.25 gallons per acre) + Aqua King Plus (0.25 gallons per acre) + Thoroughbred (8 oz. per acre) during warm months and with diquat (0.75 gallons per acre) with a non-ionic surfactant (0.25 gallons per acre) during the winter.
    c. Alligator weed should be treated with Imazapyr (0.5 gallons per acre) with Inergy surfactant (0.25 gallons per acre). Alligator weed growth in developed areas will be treated with Clearcast (0.5 gallons per acre) and Inergy surfactant (0.25 gallons per acre).
    d. Combinations of different submerged/emergent plants will be treated with Sonar AS in areas of little to no flow if conditions warrant such action. Sonar AS should be applied at a rate of between 40 and 90 parts per billion. In-water treatments will be conducted with approval of Inland Fisheries Administration on a case by case basis.

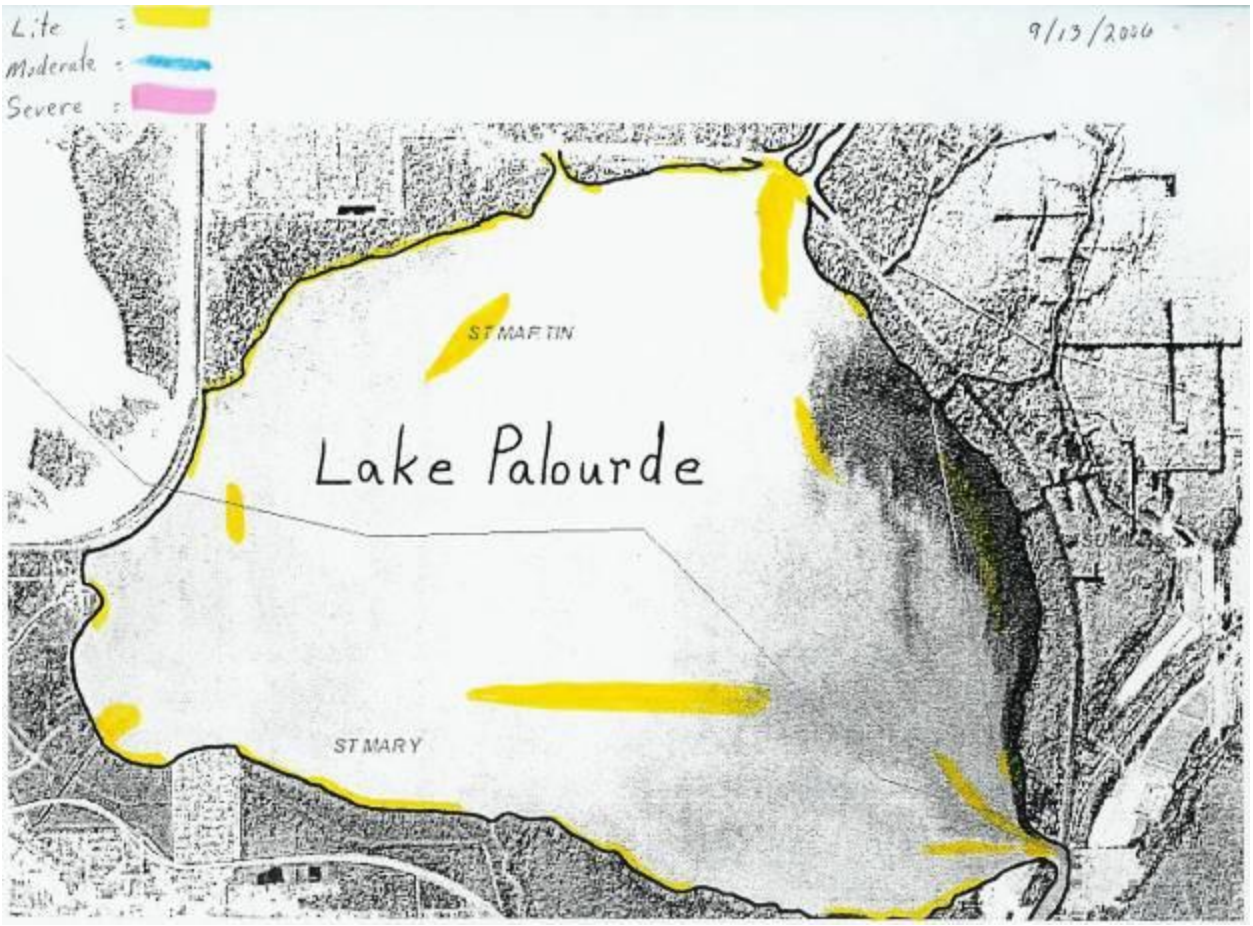
Maps:

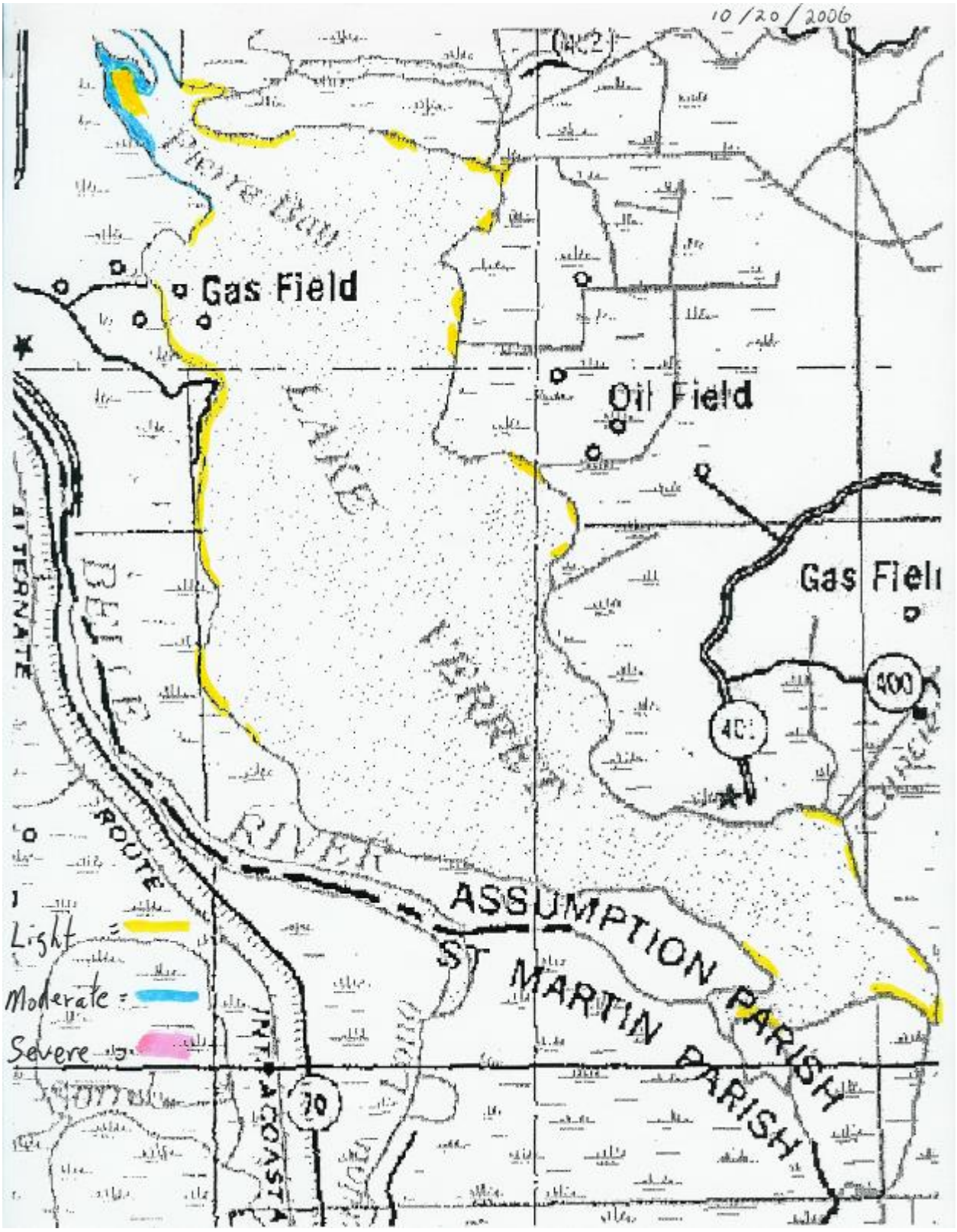



Bayou Corne Camp Canal
0.2
Miles
Legend
Sonar Treatment

Typemaps:


9/21/2006
Grass Lake
Persimmon Pass
Simon Pass
0.5
Severe =
Moderate =
Life =


Lite :
Moderate :
Severe :
9/13/2024
ST MARTIN
Lake Palourde
ST MARY


10/20/2006
Gas Field
Oil Field
Gas Fiel
400
ASSUMPTION PARISH
ST MARTIN PARISH
RIVER
ROUTE
INTRACOASTAL
Light
Moderate
Severe